



DIOCESAN PRESS SERVICE

THE EPISCOPAL CHURCH

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\$108 MILLION PLEDGED FOR VENTURE; FUNDS RELEASED

GREENWICH, Conn. -- The Episcopal Church Executive Council learned that pledges to national and diocesan Venture in Mission campaigns now total \$108 million. The Council also approved the release of about \$450,000 in designated funds for certain projects.

Robert F. Gaines of Sacramento, Calif., a member of the Venture process/funding committee, reported to the 44-member Council at its Nov. 12-14 meeting that \$38 million of the total pledges is for national Church projects and \$49 million for diocesan projects. An additional \$20 million is slated for parish work.

Forty-seven of the 95 U.S. dioceses have completed campaigns; seventeen having oversubscribed; sixteen dioceses are actively engaged; twenty are in the discussion stages. Only five dioceses have declined to enter into the program, he reported.

The Council voted to release funds which had been designated for specific projects and to approve the continued release of additional amounts earmarked for those projects that might come in later. Venture in Mission funds released by the Council are as follows:

- \$77,374 from the Diocese of West Texas, designated for education for Hispanic ministries, to the Episcopal Seminary of the Southwest in Austin, Tex.
- \$18,729.35 from the Diocese of Florida, designated for a family enrichment project of the Episcopal Church Home in the Diocese of South Carolina.
- \$35,000 from New York's Trinity Parish, designated for the South Mt. Vernon Team Ministry in the Diocese of New York.
- \$27,872 from the Diocese of Newark for the Newark Episcopal Cooperative for Ministry and Mission.
- \$15,000 from the Diocese of San Joaquin for the expansion of the Council's General Loan Fund.

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- \$10,000 from various sources for the Age in Action Program of the Episcopal Society for the Aging.
 - \$18,482.36 from the Diocese of Virginia for the Diocese of Southern Philippines Development Fund.
 - \$20,033.33 from the Diocese of Virginia to provide lectures through the Bishop Williams Memorial Fund of the Nippon Sei Ko Kai (Japan).
 - \$3,136.16 from the Diocese of South Carolina for the translation of the New Testament into Choroti in Argentina.
 - \$95,570.75 for the Cuttington University College Development Fund, to be held in a contingency account until a decision is made by the Bishop of Liberia, the executive for World Mission in Church and Society, and the treasurer of the Council to release the money for development work at the institution.
 - \$5,520.75 from the Diocese of Lexington for the El Salvador self-support fund, to be released as conditions in that country permit.
 - \$20,000 from the Diocese of Southwest Florida for emergency relief and re-settlement in Somalia, East Africa.
 - \$100,000 from the Diocese of Southwest Florida for the reserve fund of the Presiding Bishop's Fund for World Relief, designated for hunger relief projects of overseas dioceses, including Tanzania, Haiti, Ecuador and the Philippines.
- The Council decided as a general policy that when funds are received from a diocese for a national project which is also a designated project within that diocese, the funds may be released immediately at the discretion of the appropriate executive and the treasurer at the Episcopal Church Center.
- In each case these Venture in Mission funds were released to the designated projects with the provision that the established accountability procedures for grants will apply, including the submission of annual audited financial statements.

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DP, DX

1. The first thing I noticed when I stepped out of the plane was the fresh air. It felt like I had been in a bubble for the last few days. The sun was shining brightly, and the birds were singing. It was a beautiful sight.

2. I had heard that the weather was perfect, and now I knew it was true. The temperature was just what I needed. It was a relief to be outside again.

3. I had heard that the food was good, and now I knew it was true. The chef had prepared a special meal for me. It was delicious and exactly what I needed.

4. I had heard that the service was excellent, and now I knew it was true. The staff was friendly and helpful. They made me feel like a VIP.

5. I had heard that the view was amazing, and now I knew it was true. The landscape was beautiful and exactly what I needed.

6. I had heard that the people were nice, and now I knew it was true. The locals were friendly and helpful. They made me feel like I was part of the community.

7. I had heard that the culture was interesting, and now I knew it was true. The traditions were unique and exactly what I needed.

8. I had heard that the history was fascinating, and now I knew it was true. The stories were old and exactly what I needed.

9. I had heard that the architecture was beautiful, and now I knew it was true. The buildings were old and exactly what I needed.

10. I had heard that the food was good, and now I knew it was true. The chef had prepared a special meal for me. It was delicious and exactly what I needed.